

# **"How to get your green card in 8 easy quarters"**

## **Michael Capps and John Falby**

<b>4<sup>th</sup> quarter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; Proposal and advisor/reader selections</li> <li>&amp; Adjust course schedule to reflect thesis area where possible</li> </ul>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> quarter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; Background and literature search               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; Talk to advisor(s) and subject matter experts for starting points</li> </ul> </li> <li>&amp; Write a simple web page describing project and goals</li> <li>&amp; Thesis draft               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; Cover pages and Abstract                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; What is the problem you're solving?</li> <li>&amp; How did you solve it?</li> <li>&amp; What is the significance? (quantify and qualify results)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>&amp; Outline and Chapter 1: Introduction</li> <li>&amp; Chapter 2: show you know enough to do the research</li> </ul>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> quarter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; Give draft to thesis processor at START of quarter</li> <li>&amp; Plan of Attack and Milestones for research</li> <li>&amp; Give 20 minute talk in MV 4900</li> <li>&amp; Attend outstanding thesis briefs</li> </ul>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> quarters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; EXECUTE the plan (and revise as needed)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; Experiment? (Plan, Talk, Revise, Talk, Pilot Study, Analyze, Talk, Revise, Go!)</li> <li>&amp; Code (and document as you go!)</li> <li>&amp; Write chapters as you go!                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; Give chapters to advisors as they are complete</li> </ul> </li> <li>&amp; Talk with advisors as you go!</li> <li>&amp; Demos are essential</li> <li>&amp; No demo means no app means thesis dies when you leave</li> </ul> </li> <li>&amp; Recruit follow-on students for the research</li> <li>&amp; Always try to combine course projects with thesis work</li> <li>&amp; Keep project web pages up to date</li> </ul>
<b>8<sup>th</sup> quarter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; Write descriptions (one-page) of follow-on topics</li> <li>&amp; Give 20 minute talk in MV 4900</li> <li>&amp; Submit thesis document no later than week 8</li> <li>&amp; Clean up your code; help follow-ons; document your project</li> </ul>